

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 068274  
ORIGIN MCT-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00  
SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 IO-14 OMB-01 TRSE-00  
COME-00 HA-05 NEA-10 SY-05 USSS-00 ACDA-12 A-01  
/101 R

DRAFTED BY M/CT:F C ASHLEY:PD  
APPROVED BY M/CT:H ISHAM  
EUR/WE:B MCKINLEY  
EUR/P:F SEIDNER

-----015946 162347Z /17

O 162316Z MAR 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE  
AMCONSUL MILAN IMMEDIATE  
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 068274

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, IT

SUBJECT: MORO KIDNAPPING

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S NOON  
BRIEFING, MARCH 16, RELATING TO MORO KIDNAPPING.

QUOTE - THE WHITE HOUSE HAS ALSO POSTED, AND I JUST  
WANT TO CALL IT TO YOUR ATTENTION, OR WILL HAVE POSTED,  
A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT CARTER TO PRESIDENT LEONE OF  
ITALY. I HAVE THE TEXT AVAILABLE, OR DO YOU WANT ME TO  
READ IT? OKAY.

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I WOULD SIMPLY ADD ON BEHALF OF THE DEPARTMENT OF  
STATE AND SECRETARY VANCE, OUR OWN SENSE OF GRIEF AND  
OUTRAGE AT THIS INSANE AND BRUTAL ACT OF TERRORISM;  
I.E., THE TERRORIST KIDNAPPING OF ALDO MORRA.

WE CONDEMN THIS ACTION WHICH IS AN ATTACK NOT JUST ON  
AN INDIVIDUAL BUT ON THE INSTITUTIONS OF DEMOCRATIC

GOVERNMENT IN ITALY. END QUOTE.

2. TEXT OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S MESSAGE SENT TODAY TO  
PRESIDENT LEONE IS AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE - I WAS SHOCKED TO HEAR OF THE TERRORIST KIDNAPPING  
OF ALDO MORO. I KNOW THAT MILLIONS OF AMERICANS JOIN  
ME IN PRAYING FOR HIS QUICK AND SAFE RETURN. THIS  
OUTRAGE DEEPLY AFFECTS ALL OF US. PLEASE CONVEY  
MY PERSONAL SYMPATHIES TO THE MORO FAMILY AND TO THE  
FAMILIES OF THE BRAVE MEN SLAIN IN THE LINE OF DUTY IN  
THIS SENSELESS TERRORIST ATTACK. END QUOTE.

3. DEPARTMENT PROPOSED FOLLOWING QUESTION AND  
ANSWER ON AN "IF ASKED ONLY" BASIS BUT SUBJECT WAS  
NOT RAISED.

Q: ARE YOU PREPARED TO ASSIST THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT  
IN THEIR EFFORTS TO PUT AN END TO TERRORIST ACTS OF  
THIS KIND?

A: MATTERS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AND THE BRINGING TO  
JUSTICE OF THOSE WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS CRIME  
ARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT WHICH  
IS VIGOROUSLY RESPONDING TO THE SITUATION. WE HAVE  
NOT BEEN APPROACHED WITH ANY SPECIFIC REQUESTS AND  
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WE DO NOT EXPECT TO RECEIVE ANY. END QUOTE. VANCE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** KIDNAPPING, TEXT, PRESS CONFERENCES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE068274  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** F C ASHLEY:PD  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780118-0140  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780358/aaaabxaa.tel  
**Line Count:** 95  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 89d1a1c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN MCT  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 02 mar 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3300210  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MORO KIDNAPPING  
**TAGS:** PINS, SOPN, IT, US, (MORO, ALDO)  
**To:** ROME MILAN  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/89d1a1c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014